

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Our Standards

By Walter E. Myer

ARE Americans going down hill morally? Are standards of conduct declining? Is strong character less common than it was a generation or a century ago?

Such questions as these have been making news this summer. An event at West Point brought them to the fore. The event was, of course, the discovery and publication of the fact that a large number of students in the West Point Military Academy had confessed to the charge that they had cheated in examinations. The cadets were dismissed by the West Point authorities.

Cheating, of course, is not confined to the classroom. In an article in *The American Magazine*, Victor Nyborg, president of the Association of Better Business Bureaus, described evidences of low ethical standards in business. He pointed out that many complaints are being made about dishonest repairmen by the owners of radios, television sets, washing machines, automobiles, and various appliances.

These dishonest repairmen make excessive charges for small repairs or for what may not be a repair at all. They are well aware that most owners of complex mechanical devices—a TV set, for example—know very little about its workings. Thus, owners can seldom check on what a repairman has done, but must take his word for it.

Cheating and dishonest workmanship are bad enough, but in addition we have a dangerous amount of crime. Congressional investigations earlier this year pointed to gangsterism, bribery and various sorts and degrees of crime.

All this evidence of cheating, dishonesty and crime lead many to think that we are going downhill in personal and public ethics. Whether or not this is true, there is no question that our national standards of conduct are lower than they should be.

Rule-breaking and lawbreaking weaken the nation, when, beset by enemies, it should have the strength which comes from fair dealing. Only when there is mutual trust among individuals can there be trust among nations.



Walter E. Myer

America is the world's strongest nation, and she looks to all her citizens to stand at her side. At this very time, however, a large proportion of the people are working with organized crime. Thousands of others are engaged in petty trickery and cheating at the expense of their fellow citizens.

Time and again history has shown that governments have broken down as standards of conduct have declined. Such a collapse took place in ancient Greece and later in Rome. Dishonesty and corruption played a part in the collapse of Nationalist China after World War II. We must not allow that pattern of events to be repeated in our own land.

Citizens of our country are lining up—the fair and the honest on one side and the cheaters, tricksters and criminals on the other. Each person, young or old, must take his stand.



BY 1953, it is predicted, U. S. industry will be able to carry on our defense program without leaving any shortages of civilian goods

U. S. Grows Stronger

Our Armed Power Is Expanding, But Fight Against Inflation and Plans for Civil Defense Lag Behind

OUR nation is picking up speed in the military preparedness drive which it launched just after the outbreak of war in Korea. U. S. officials took last year's Korean attack not only as a challenge to be met on the Asiatic peninsula itself, but also as a solemn warning of the danger of Moscow-inspired aggression elsewhere. So America has been working faster than at any other time since World War II to promote and develop powerful defenses for the free world.

Our build-up of military strength has had three main purposes: first and most immediate, to halt the aggressors in Korea; second, to prevent world war by developing so much armed might that Moscow will be afraid to risk an all-out clash; third, to enable us to win a world war in case such a conflict cannot be avoided.

Regardless of the final developments in Korea, the defense program needs to go on without slackening, for the danger of Soviet aggression will not suddenly be removed. Most leaders seem to agree on this point, even though they sometimes disagree over what are the best methods of providing a strong national defense.

How far along are we, at present, in the effort to step up America's armed power? Are we well prepared

for any crisis which may develop? These and other related questions are of vital concern to our nation as the second year of America's preparedness drive gets under way.

Armed forces. The U. S. Army, Navy, and Air Force have been vastly expanded since the Korean war began. At the outbreak of fighting, these services had a combined strength of fewer than 1½ million men. Their goal for next year is a total of over 3½ million and government officials report that this goal has nearly been reached already.

To build and maintain such large forces, the nation is drafting thousands of young men each month. According to present law, men in the 18½-through-25 age group are eligible for induction.

Our growing Navy is operating more than a thousand ships and 8,000 airplanes. By this summer the U. S. Air Force had built up to 87 wings, compared with a pre-Korean strength of below 50. (A "wing" is an Air Force unit whose size depends on the kind of aircraft it uses. Fighter wings contain as many as 75 planes, while heavy bomber outfits have considerably fewer.)

How large an Air Force should we

(Concluded on page 6)

World Spotlight Focuses on Asia

The Big Continent Seethes with Rising Nationalism and Political Unrest

IN vast Asia, home of more than half the world's people, a series of gigantic struggles is taking place today. These struggles directly affect us, our allies in Europe, and the rest of the free world. The outcome of events in Asia can make it easier or harder for the free world to maintain its independence and democracy.

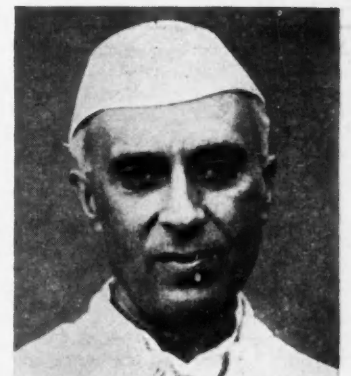
The tiny Asiatic peninsula of Korea has held our attention most of the time for more than a year now. The struggle there has been real, hard war. Americans, Englishmen, Turks, and others have fought in the United Nations army to save the Republic of South Korea from Communist conquest.

The Communist aggressors—North Koreans and Chinese—agreed some weeks ago to talk about a truce after they were driven out of the southern republic. UN and Communist representatives began discussions. Hopes alternately rose and fell during weeks of negotiations interrupted by frequent breakdowns in discussions.

Whatever the final result of the peace effort, the free world will need to continue sharp watch against the Communists in Korea and elsewhere. Russia is doing everything she can to spread her power by working through native Communists in Asia. Russia's effort is one side of the story of Asia today.

The China mainland now has a Communist government, and the Chinese Reds control Tibet. Communist rebels are trying to win power in Indo-China, and they are causing much trouble in Burma. Indonesia is worried by the threat of Communist uprisings. The Philippines must watch constantly against sabotage of government buildings, telephone lines, and electric power facilities by Communist rebels.

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JAWAHARLAL NEHRU, Prime Minister of India and one of Asia's most prominent leaders. He wants to avoid tying India firmly either to Russia or to the western democracies.



DRAWN FOR THE AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

ASIA, in white, contains well over a fourth of the world's total land area and more than half of its entire population. It stretches almost halfway around the globe.

In Vast Asia

(Continued from page 1)

There is a second side to the story of Asia: the struggle of millions of people for independence. Many are just beginning to govern themselves as independent nations, after hundreds of years under the rule of foreign powers. India and Pakistan are among the new nations; they broke away from British rule after the second World War. Such countries are proud of their new independence, and they want to become strong and exercise a great influence in the world.

The huge population of Asia alone makes it impossible to ignore events there, even if we wished to do so. Over half the people of the world live in Asia. The population is nearly 10 times greater than that of the United States, four times greater than that of North and South America together. The area of Asia is stupendous, too, more than 16 million square miles. It is about the size of North and South America together, stretches almost halfway around the world, and reaches from the equator to the Arctic.

Asia contains about two dozen nations (see map), including some of the most ancient countries on earth. It has Arab lands such as Saudi Arabia and Jordan. It contains Israel—reborn as a Jewish homeland since World War II. Farther east are the big, crowded nations of India, Pakistan, and China. Just off the continent's Pacific coast lie the islands of Japan. All the way across northern Asia stretches vast Siberia.

The Asiatic continent is joined to Europe at the Ural mountains in Russia. It is separated from Africa by the Suez Canal. The Bering Strait

off Alaska, only 56 miles wide, cuts Asia from North America. Asiatic islands, including Indonesia and the Philippines, are stepping stones to Australia.

All sorts of extremes in topography and climate are to be found in the vast territory. It has the world's highest known point—Mount Everest, 29,141 feet above sea level, on the frontiers of Tibet and Nepal. It also has the earth's lowest land surface—the shores of the Dead Sea, which are 1,292 feet below sea level. The sea is between Israel and Jordan.

Northern Asia has some of the world's coldest winters. A reading of 90 degrees below zero in Siberia in 1892 is believed to be a world record. Southern Asia is hot in summer; a temperature of 123 degrees has been recorded in Iraq.

Continent's Resources

Asia supplies many items that the world needs: oil, tin, natural rubber, bauxite (aluminum ore), manganese (for hardening steel), tea, and spices.

Almost everyone agrees that it is to our interests to be friends with Asia. We want to check communism there to help safeguard world freedom. We want to influence Asia toward democracy, because we believe democracy offers people the best opportunity for prosperity and happiness.

The big difficulty in helping Asia is that few Americans really know or understand very much about the people; and the Asiatics very often look upon us with deep suspicion. They remember their long years under foreign rulers; they are afraid that we want to impose our rule now—just as the Communists are constantly saying we want to do.

In trying to understand Asia, the

Saturday Review of Literature suggests 10 points for Americans to bear in mind. Listed in the magazine's special Asia issue (August 4), the points are that most people in Asia (1) will go to bed hungry tonight (2) cannot read or write (3) live in grinding poverty (4) have never seen a doctor (5) have never heard of democracy (6) have never known civil liberties (7) believe anything different would be better than what they have (8) believe that freedom or free enterprise means the freedom of western colonial powers to exploit Asians (9) distrust people with white skins, and (10) are determined never again to be ruled by foreigners.

Hunger, poverty, sickness, and ignorance are the big causes of dissatisfaction. Most people get barely enough food to sustain life in normal years. There is famine and people starve to death by the thousands when crops fail. In India last spring, for instance, many people were able to get a daily ration of only about two ounces of rice, their main food. Some ate grass and weeds; many starved.

Poverty is widespread. The average income per person is \$50 a year, and many Asiatics get much less. (The U. S. average in 1950 was \$1,436). Work is hard, for modern tools are mostly unavailable. Carts pulled by hand, rather than by motors or animals, often serve as trucks. Motor vehicles are rare; Indonesia, to take one nation, has only about one for every 1,000 persons. (The U. S. average is about one for every four persons.)

Health standards are low. A baby in India has a chance, on the average, to live only to the age of 26, in China to 45, in Japan to 46 (compared with 65-70 in our country). Doctors are few. China, one of the poorest coun-

tries, has about one doctor for each 25,000 persons (compared with more than one for each 1,000 in the United States). Educational standards also are low. There are few schools and fewer teachers. In many parts of Asia, only one or two of every 10 persons can read or write.

Anything Is Better

It is easy to understand why the Asiatics think anything different would be better than their present low standard of living. The Communists have been clever with their false propaganda in seeking to persuade the Asiatics that life will be happy and prosperous under communism. The Russians have emphasized that they are "eastern friends" and preach to the Asiatics that the western world wants to take away their freedom.

Asia's distrust of the westerner, now being fed by the Communist propaganda, goes back in history to the 15th, 16th, and 17th centuries when Great Britain, Portugal, France, the Netherlands, and others built their Asiatic empires—and did very little for the native peoples they ruled.

Through the years, a few Asiatics began to agitate for independence and freedom. Their cry was rarely for any special type of government; the people wanted only to get rid of the foreign rulers. Their cries were nationalistic; that is, they emphasized a desire for national independence with slogans like "India for the Indians." Some Asiatics added the slogan "Asia for the Asiatics."

Asians gained some liberties from time to time. It was only as World War II came to an end, however, that many obtained full independence.

The job that the free world faces is complicated. We must (1) prevent

(Concluded on page 5, column 4)

Science News

Last week, the first coast-to-coast TV show in history brought the proceedings of the Japanese peace treaty conference in San Francisco to a nationwide audience. The American Telephone and Telegraph Company opened its new 40-million-dollar system of relay stations, which is able to carry video programs from New York to the Pacific, with this important event. Next month, audiences on the West Coast will, for the first time, watch the World Series on their TV screens.

The relay system is also carrying telephone conversations from coast-to-coast. Telephone messages are speeding through the air from New York to San Francisco without the benefit of wire or cable.

The new transcontinental hookup consists of 107 microwave towers spaced about 30 miles apart. The tallest tower, located in Des Moines, is 427 feet high. The average height of the towers is 125 feet. Each tower has an amplifying system which boosts the power of the radio signals it receives. The signals are then focused in a narrow beam and sped to the next tower where the process is repeated.

A new threat to our country's wheat crop is a destructive fungus which attacks the stalks. Researchers have given the rust a name—Race 15-B. The seeds of the rust live through the winter in southern regions of the United States by feeding on the growing grain. In northern regions, the seeds live on barberry bushes during the winter and attack the wheat as it ripens.

Scientists say that one of the best ways to get rid of the destructive fungus in the north is to destroy the barberry bushes. At the same time, researchers are trying to develop a variety of wheat which is able to resist the stem rust.

Scientists at the National Bureau of Standards have developed a new process for protecting two of the valuable documents housed in the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C. The Declaration of Independence—now faded by time—and the United States Constitution are to be placed in bronze and glass cases filled with helium gas. A leakometer will be used daily to determine whether or not any of the gas is escaping. It is believed that the sealed, helium-filled cases will protect these famous documents from decay.

A new du Pont fiber, called dacron, will soon be used for making men's socks and suits. Dacron has many of the qualities of other synthetic fibers; it is shrinkproof, long-wearing, and mothproof. Fabrics made from dacron will not wrinkle and will retain a crease even after the material is washed.

Scientists who are working on the engine for an atomic submarine report that they are making rapid progress. Their goal is to produce an atomic power plant which will permit a submarine to remain submerged for long periods of time. Engineers are also busy on an atomic airplane which would be able to circle the globe several times without refueling.

—By HAZEL L. ELDRIDGE.



JORDAN has a small but well-trained army. These men are drilling at a field near Amman, the nation's capital.

Kingdom of Jordan

Tiny Country, Now Without a Permanent Ruler, Has Long Been Important to the World's Great Powers

(This is the first of a series of geographical articles discussing the countries of Asia.)

EVER since the assassination of its leader, King Abdullah, last July, Jordan has been a kingdom without a king. Today the small nation is being governed by a temporary ruler. Now the world is wondering what role the little country will play in the troubled Middle East area under its temporary leader, Prince Naif.

Because of its location near the Suez Canal, the rich oil fields of the Middle East, and the Red Sea, Jordan has long been of strategic importance to the great world powers. The western nations, particularly Great Britain, have tried to keep on good terms with the tiny kingdom. As king, Abdullah followed a policy of friendship with Great Britain. British subsidies helped equip Abdullah's Arab Legion, and an Anglo-Jordan agreement permitted the British to station air force units in Jordan.

Since Abdullah's assassination, leaders of the western powers are wondering if the new ruler of Jordan will be as cooperative as Abdullah was. Prince Naif, the king's youngest son, is believed to be friendly toward Great Britain, but no one is certain how long he will govern the kingdom.

Prince Talal, the heir to the throne and the older brother of Naif, is too ill now to become king. Some people believe that Talal's 15-year-old son, Emir Hussein, may be selected as king later. Because neither Talal nor his

son likes the British, the western nations are anxiously awaiting the final settlement of the kingship question.

The present development of Jordan has come about largely through Abdullah's efforts. Under his leadership the land was freed from Turkish control during the first World War and was recognized as completely independent after World War II. More land was added to the little kingdom after Abdullah's troops conquered the Arab sections of Jerusalem and Palestine during the Israeli-Arab war in 1948 and 1949.

An estimated 1,500,000 people live in the Hashemite Kingdom of the Jordan, as the country is officially known. Most of the land, which is about the size of Indiana, is plateau and desert. Many of the people live under tribal law and raise sheep, goats, and camels.

Although only 10 per cent of the land is suitable for farming, agricultural products are the most important of the nation's exports. During Abdullah's reign, part of the fertile highlands along the east bank of the Jordan river were terraced and orchards were planted. In recent years wheat, barley, fresh vegetables, and raw wool have been the country's chief exports.

This year, however, a drought destroyed most the nation's chief source of food—its wheat and barley crop. Abdullah had hoped to unite the neighboring states of Syria, Lebanon, and Israel with Jordan. This would have given his country greater control of the Jordan river, whose water is necessary for the development of irrigation projects in the valley on the west side of the river. Now Jordan must seek help from the United Nations and Great Britain because of the drought.

The few cities of Jordan, with their low, flat-topped buildings and domed mosques (most of the people are Moslems), are very unlike American cities. The lack of enough coal and iron has slowed down industrialization, although a few communities, chiefly in western Jordan, have some industries. These include soap manufacturing, flour milling, and the pressing of olive oil. The Jordan sector of Jerusalem and Amman, the capital, have airports that are used by several foreign airlines.



DRAWN FOR THE AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

Readers Say—

We in the United States do not know what it is to go without food or shelter. But thousands of people in other lands do know—they live in great misery. I think we should give all the help we can to these citizens of underdeveloped countries.

What will be our reward for aiding the world's unfortunate people? We will stop the spread of communism and we will gain the friendship of free citizens everywhere.

LOLA SMITH,
Williston, North Dakota.

I think our government should cut down on its spending program, particularly its foreign aid projects. We must conserve our strength at home and tighten our belts if we are to win the long, hard struggle against the Communist menace.

I agree that we should give some help to our allies, but our first job is to make America strong enough to protect itself against any aggressor.

VIRGINIA BROWN,
Richmond, Virginia.

Should we interfere with the internal affairs of President Peron's government in Argentina? I don't think so. Even though we oppose Peron's methods of suppressing liberties in his country, we have no right to take any action against him. We don't want other nations to meddle with our domestic policies, therefore we should keep out of the internal affairs of our South American neighbor.

ZELDA CHRISTENSEN,
Riceville, Iowa.

I believe we should make a strong effort to stop Argentina from setting up a dangerous dictatorship in the Western Hemisphere. One way in which we can achieve this aim is to show the citizens of Argentina that we are their friends. Moreover, by encouraging the growth of democracy in Argentina and in other Latin American countries, we could peacefully overcome the dangers of dictatorship in these lands.

BRUCE LOGANBILL,
Newton, Kansas.

We should take immediate steps to cut down on the high rate of traffic accidents on our streets and highways. For one thing, all high schools in the coun-



try should give special auto-driving courses. Secondly, police should strictly enforce all traffic laws. I believe that if these suggestions were followed, the number of highway accidents would be greatly reduced.

BARBARA CONWAY,
Osborne, Kansas.

(Address letters for this column to: Readers Say—THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, 1733 K Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.)

The Story of the Summer



NIGHT AFTER NIGHT, during recent months, the United Nations Secretariat Building in New York has been ablaze with light. UN office workers have spent long hours trying to bring peace to Korea and to prevent outbreaks of war elsewhere.

Toward Peace for Japan

In San Francisco last week, representatives of Japan and the nations she fought in World War II were called together to sign a Japanese peace treaty. Fighting ended with the Japanese surrender in 1945. The peace treaty would declare the conflict finished in a legal sense.

The United States invited 50 nations (the U. S. was No. 51) to sign the treaty with Japan. Most of the countries accepted the invitation, but not all were ready to approve the treaty. Nevertheless, the State Department felt it had enough support to justify calling the conference.

Signing the treaty is one step toward putting it into operation. It must then be ratified by the governments of Japan and of eight of the leading nations that were at war with her. The treaty then becomes effective. Should eight nations fail to give approval, the treaty can be put into effect by individual nations. The United States, for example, could accept the treaty and it would be in operation so far as we are concerned.

The main provisions of the treaty are as follows:

(1) Japan promises to support United Nations principles and to settle future international disputes by negotiation.

(2) Japan is permitted to build an army for defense.

(3) Nations accepting the treaty

recognize Japan as a fully independent nation, no longer subject to orders from American officials who have supervised the country since 1945.

(4) Japan may allow foreign troops to remain in the country. This provision clears the way for an agreement permitting us to continue to use Japanese military bases.

(5) No burdensome reparations (payment for damages) in cash or manufactured goods are to be required of Japan, but some compensation may be demanded by nations which suffered heavy destruction.

UN on the Job

The United Nations devoted its greatest efforts during the summer months to the task of trying to work out a peace settlement in Korea. It has also been busy in other parts of the world, however. Here, in brief, are some actions already taken or about to be taken by the United Nations:

Another attempt is being made to settle the four-year-old dispute between India and Pakistan over the large border province of Kashmir. Last April, the UN sent Dr. Frank Graham, a former U. S. Senator, to try for a settlement of the Kashmir conflict. Graham is to give a report of his work to the world organization at the end of this month.

In Palestine, the UN Security Council is seeking to settle the differences between Israel and her Arab neigh-

bor, Syria. The two nations have been quarreling over a swampy border area, which the Jewish nation began to drain despite Syria's objections. The world organization succeeded in getting both sides to agree on a cease-fire order last May, and a UN truce team is trying to settle the dispute.

About four months ago, the General Assembly asked all UN members to stop sending arms and other war goods to Communist China because of China's aggressive actions in Korea. As a result of this request, most free nations have cut off war materials trade with the Communist nation.

Korea and Iran

As the month of September was ushered in, two outstanding international conflicts were still in the stage of doubt and confusion. Efforts during the summer to settle the Korean war and the British-Iranian oil dispute met with violent ups and downs. At times, there appeared to be real hope that compromises could be worked out—then suddenly the opposing sides would begin wrangling and plunge into seemingly hopeless stalemates. Negotiations would get under way, break off, resume, then stop again.

Despite all discouragements as the bickering continued into late summer, it was still hoped that some sort of compromise might eventually be worked out in Iran and Korea. Failure to do so, it was realized by opposing sides, would be costly. Prolonged continuation of the Korean war would exact a heavy toll of human lives. Inability to resolve the British-Iranian dispute might cut off a vital supply of oil to Europe, lead to Soviet control of Iran's oil, and even touch off the sparks of a third world war.

With the stakes so high, leaders of all nations involved were moving cautiously, playing a waiting game, and hoping that they could achieve their aims short of large-scale warfare.

Congress at Work

After eight months of work, Congress is still far behind in its 1951 legislative schedule. In fact, only slightly more than 100 bills out of over 7,000 proposals introduced this year have been enacted into law.

Some of the big "must" measures on which congressmen hope to take final action before the proposed adjournment date of October 1, include: (1) Tax increases so that the government can raise an additional 7 to 10

billion dollars in revenue; and (2) President Truman's $8\frac{1}{2}$ -billion-dollar economic and military aid program to help friendly nations.

Among the bills already passed by Congress are these: (1) Measures to provide funds needed to finance the work of the government; (2) a 190-million-dollar loan to India with which that country can buy about two million tons of American grain; (3) a four-year extension of the selective service law which makes men 18½ through 25 eligible for the draft; (4) a one-year extension of the Defense Production Act of 1950, which continues many of the price and wage controls of the old law, but allows some additional rent and price increases.

Moreover, Senate committees conducted an inquiry into the dismissal of General Douglas MacArthur, former Far East commander, and reviewed our Asiatic policies. Finally, the Senate Crime Investigation Committee, first headed by Senator Estes



THIS TELEVISION SET can receive programs in color or black-and-white. Inauguration of color TV and establishment of a coast-to-coast video network were big events in television this summer. (See science note, page 3, column 1.)

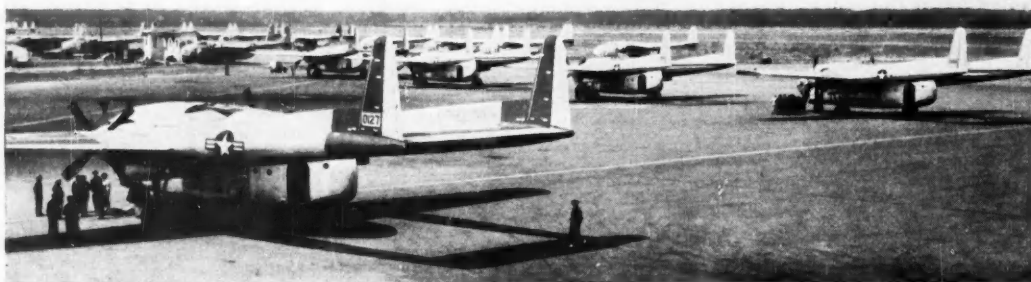
Kefauver of Tennessee and recently by Senator Herbert O'Connor of Maryland, uncovered a vast amount of information on organized crime during the committee's numerous sessions within the past year.

Who Will Be President?

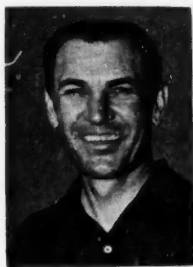
Democrats and Republicans are now busily making plans for the big political campaign next year. Though candidates for President will not be chosen until the parties hold their nominating conventions in Chicago next July, political leaders are already talking about these and other men as possible choices for the nation's top office:

President Harry Truman. Serving his seventh year in the White House, the Chief Executive has not said whether he will run for re-election. Some of his close friends say Truman wants to retire to his home in Independence, Missouri, when his term of office expires in January, 1953. Others think he will run for the Presidency again.

General Dwight Eisenhower. Though Eisenhower has not yet said he will run for President, the supreme commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization forces has the support of a great many Democrats as well as Republicans for the nation's



THESE TRANSPORTS, new versions of the famous "flying boxcars," are among the military supplies that America sent during the summer to General Eisenhower's North Atlantic Treaty armed forces in Europe



Ben Hogan



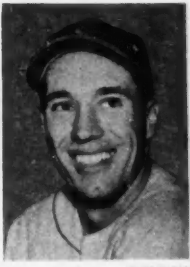
Babe Zaharias



Pat McCormick



Doris Hart



Bob Feller



Dick Savitt



Joe Walcott

SEVEN OUTSTANDING FIGURES WHO MADE ENVIABLE RECORDS IN VARIOUS SPORTS FIELDS DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS

highest office. President Truman recently declared that he will not ask the NATO military chief to continue his duties in Europe if the general wants to enter the Presidential race.

Senator Robert Taft. Republican leader in Congress, the Ohio senator says he is now "sounding out" voters and political leaders in many parts of the country to see if they want him as President. Taft started his third term in the Senate last year.

Governor Thomas Dewey. After New York's Republican Governor failed a second time to win the Presidency in 1948, he said he would not run for that office again. Nevertheless, some political leaders think Dewey's recent 25,000-mile airplane trip to the Far East was a signal that the Governor is not out of the Presidential race.

Summer Tragedy

Never again is the new slogan of midwesterners, who are determined to prevent another terrible flood like the one that struck sections of Kansas, Missouri, and nearby states in July. Federal, state, and local officials are now considering several proposals for controlling the mighty Missouri River and its tributaries. These measures are expected to receive wider attention than have any similar plans of the past.

The rampaging rivers brought misery to thousands of persons in the Missouri Valley. Several lives were lost, and it is estimated that the record floodwaters destroyed a billion dollars' worth of crops, houses, livestock, and other property.

Sports Champions

There was plenty of sports activity this summer. Several new champions emerged, while a number of athletes successfully defended their crowns.

Among the latter were golfers Ben Hogan of Ft. Worth, Texas, and Mildred "Babe" Zaharias of Chicago. Hogan won the U. S. open tournament for the second year in a row, and triumphed in the big Tam O'Shanter tourney near Chicago. Mrs. Zaharias won the Tam O'Shanter event for women, repeating her victory of 1950.

Some new champions were crowned in tennis. At the famous Wimbledon courts in England, Dick Savitt of Orange, New Jersey, added the British singles championship to the Australian title he won last winter. Doris Hart of Coral Gables, Florida, won in women's play at Wimbledon.

In the national swimming and diving meet for women, Pat McCormick of Los Angeles was the top performer. She won first place in three diving events.

Bob Feller of the Cleveland Indians, a big leaguer since 1936, was the first major league hurler to win 20 games this season. Among his victories was the third no-hit game of his brilliant career.

In one of the big sports upsets of the summer, Joe Walcott, 37-year-old boxer from Camden, New Jersey, won the heavyweight crown from Ezzard Charles of Cincinnati, Ohio. Charles had been champion for two years before "Jersey Joe" upset him.

Europe's Defenses Grow

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries are feeling increasingly secure these days, despite the powerful Russian forces that threaten them. More and more U. S. guns, jet airplanes, and other war goods are being sent to Europe to equip a fast-growing NATO army—an army, which according to estimates, already has some 500,000 combat-ready American, Canadian, and European troops. General Dwight Eisenhower, supreme commander of the Atlantic pact forces, hopes his army will grow to 1½ million men by 1953.

Meanwhile, representatives of four treaty nations—France, Belgium, Italy, and Luxemburg—have agreed to weld their countries' armed forces into a single fighting unit under NATO. West Germany, too, has agreed to join the European army.

However, the Atlantic treaty nations must iron out a number of problems in the months ahead. One of the big questions now before the 12 NATO members is this: Should additional countries be admitted to the defense system? The U. S., Britain, and some other pact nations want Greece and Turkey to join NATO. But Norway, Belgium and a few other European

countries question the wisdom of this proposal. They fear the free nations do not have enough arms to go around to so many lands at this time.

This and other questions will be discussed next Saturday when the North Atlantic Council, the top executive body of NATO, is scheduled to meet in Ottawa, Canada.

The Oatis Case

In recent years, citizens of the free world have been shocked by the large number of arrests and by the brutal treatment of citizens and foreigners in Iron Curtain countries.

Some weeks ago, Communist Czechoslovakia arrested William Oatis, an American newspaperman stationed in Prague, for "spying" and for reporting "slander and lies" about the Soviet satellite nation. In a trial that violated all personal rights as we know them, a Communist court imposed a 10-year prison sentence on Oatis.

U. S. officials have strongly protested to the Czech government for its "brutal" arrest of Oatis and have called the charges made against the newsman "completely false." Steps are now being taken to cut off our trade with the eastern European country unless the Czechs release Oatis.

The Weeks Ahead

During the fall, THE AMERICAN OBSERVER will carry a series of maps covering the continents of the world as well as articles on the United Nations, Japan, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's army, the record of Congress, the pros and cons on U. S. foreign policy, the political situation as we look to next year's Presidential election, universal military training, and communism in the United States.



TOPEKA, capital of Kansas, was among the midwestern cities that suffered severe flood damage this summer

Unrest in Asia

(Concluded from page 2)

the spread of communism, (2) convince the Asiatics that we do not seek to rule them and that we fully support their independence, (3) show them how communism is their real enemy and how it would stamp out their independence, and (4) help the Asiatics to build better living standards.

What is the United States doing? At great cost, we have undertaken to help Asia build freedom and a better living standard.

Militarily, we have made the biggest contribution of any nation to the United Nations war to halt Communist aggression in Korea. We are supplying Indo-China and the Philippines, to name two nations, with arms to combat Communist rebels. We are helping Turkey to build an armed force for defense against aggression. We are about to begin aiding Japan to construct an army.

Politically, we are trying to convince the Asiatics that we have no wish to hold power over them. We are trying to reach the people with our story through *Voice of America* radio broadcasts, through information movies we show, and through libraries we maintain in Asiatic countries.

Economically, we are cooperating in United Nations programs to provide food and clothing, medicine and doctors, schools and teachers, and technicians to develop Asia's agriculture and industry. Our Point Four program for aid to underdeveloped nations includes Asia.

While we have done a great deal, much of our program for Asia has been debated bitterly in Congress. Many Republicans and some Democrats feel we should be tougher militarily against Communist nations in Asia. The value of the *Voice of America* has been debated, too; some Americans feel that it is not effectively reaching Asiatic peoples.

There has been criticism, also, of the way in which we sent wheat to relieve the famine in India this summer. The critics felt that Congress debated the issue so long that the loan of money to buy wheat no longer appeared very generous. Rather, said these critics, we gave the impression that we were using the question of food for political bargaining.

Disputes over our Asian policy are continuing. Our wisdom and success in dealing with this important area of the world will depend upon how much time and study the American people and their leaders devote to the problem.

U. S. Strength

(Concluded from page 1)

eventually build? According to present official plans, we shall have a 95-wing force by the latter part of next year. Numerous congressmen, including Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., and Chairman Carl Vinson of the House Armed Services Committee, declare that 95 wings are not sufficient to insure America's safety.

These men argue that our sky fleet is, in many respects, "second best" to Russia's. Second best, they continue, is not good enough to win a war. Lodge, Vinson, and others want an Air Force of approximately 150 wings. This, they contend, is what we must build if we are to have air superiority in the crucial early stages of a world conflict.

Other Americans reply as follows: "It would cost us about 40 billion dollars a year to maintain so huge a force. Since our preparedness program may have to be continued for a long time, the financial burden would become staggering. It might cause us to neglect our Army and Navy, and these services are also vital to the nation's defense. As a long-term proposition, the 95-wing Air Force is large enough for us to keep in operation. Meanwhile, we should have our factories ready to expand the air fleet rapidly in case all-out war occurs."

No matter what plan is followed, military preparedness is bound to be expensive. The armed services have asked for about 60 billion dollars to carry them through the year which ends next June 30. This is four or five times as much as we were spending annually on our military forces just before war began in Korea.

Atomic weapons. Only a few U. S. leaders know how many atomic bombs the nation has, and they aren't telling. Informed observers estimate, though, that our stockpile contains about a thousand. We have atom bombs far more powerful than those used against Japan in 1945. Work is under way on atomic engines for submarines and airplanes. There has also been considerable progress toward the making of atomic artillery shells.

The United States has already spent about 5 billion dollars on harnessing the atom, and is expected to spend nearly 3 billion more in the near future. U. S. atomic-energy development has become a tremendous industry, employing over 90,000 people and using nearly 3,000 square miles of land.

Government officials seem confident that we are still far ahead of Russia in the atomic race. Soviet fear of our atomic weapons may well be the main

factor that keeps Moscow from launching a world war.

Industrial output. From all parts of America, factories and workshops are pouring out a flood of weapons for our own forces and our allies. Defense equipment is being produced three times as fast as it was when the Korean war started, and the rate probably will be tripled again during the coming year.

So far, our best progress has been in the output of military items that are similar to certain types of civilian goods—items like uniforms, blankets, trucks, and jeeps. Production of tanks, guns, and combat planes has met with greater difficulties, but large quantities of these weapons are also being turned out.

Here are some examples of progress in this second group: During June 1950—just a little over a year ago—the U. S. aircraft industry turned out 215 military planes. In June 1951 it produced 355, and by next summer it probably will be producing more than a thousand planes a month. Automotive plants built 18 new combat vehicles of a certain type in June of this year, and 75 in July. Output of these vehicles in August was about 250.

We are also stepping up our production of basic raw materials like steel and aluminum. This nation made about 78 million tons of steel in 1949, and 102 million tons during the year following the outbreak of war in Korea. By 1953, the steel industry hopes to be turning out 118 million tons a year.

We are buying enormous quantities of raw materials from abroad. The United States uses nearly 60 per cent of all the copper, lead, nickel, and bauxite that the free world produces; and we depend heavily on foreign sources for each of these (see chart accompanying this article). In return, we have already sent our allies large numbers of combat planes, tanks, guns, bullets, and artillery shells.

Defense production is cutting increasingly into our supply of certain civilian items. Manufacturers of such goods are limited, by government regulations, as to the amount of steel and other vital materials they can use. Automobile companies, for instance, are turning out about 35 per cent fewer cars than they were producing at this time last year. Output of refrigerators and washing machines is 15 or 20 per cent below what it was a year ago. Construction of homes and other buildings is being limited.

According to present plans, military output will reach its peak late in 1952 or early in 1953. At that time, the defense program will be using up approximately 20 per cent of the nation's productive effort, and there will



YOUNG AMERICANS, drafted into the armed services, are learning to handle submachine guns and other such weapons

be noticeable shortages of civilian goods. But by the latter part of 1953, according to U. S. mobilization officials, our factories will have expanded so greatly that they can satisfy civilian demand and carry the national defense program, too.

This prediction, of course, holds good only if world war is prevented. In case such a conflict occurs, the factories will switch to all-out military production, and many civilian items will disappear from the market.

Economic controls. When the American family goes out to shop, it now must spend at least \$1.09 to purchase what a dollar would have bought at the start of the Korean war. This is an over-all average, and the prices of some items have gone up much more sharply. House furnishings that cost \$100 in June 1950 would cost \$115 or more today. On an average, housewives were paying \$11.20 this summer for the same amount of food that \$10 would have bought before the Korean war broke out.

Uncle Sam, too, is paying more and more for the materials he buys. An anti-aircraft gun that cost \$160,000 before the Korean war now costs at least \$250,000. The prices of combat boots and woolen army shirts have more than doubled since the conflict in Korea began.

Prices have climbed for this reason: The nation's industries are busy and practically all workers are employed. With the government putting out vast sums for defense equipment, the American people have more money to spend than ever before. They want to buy tremendous amounts of goods, and many civilian items are too scarce to satisfy the heavy demand. People bid against one another for scarce goods, and force prices up.

When prices and living costs rise, workers demand wage increases. If businessmen boost the pay of their employees, they often make up the added cost by raising the prices of what they sell. Then we have a continuing spiral of inflation, in which wages and living costs chase each other upward.

The situation works a great hardship on Americans whose incomes have increased only slightly or not at all during the Korean war period. Many organized workers have been able to get substantial wage increases to help them meet their constantly rising cost of living. Many other workers, however, have not fared so well, and they are having a hard time paying their increased bills. People who live on pensions and savings are also finding that the money they have will not buy nearly as much as it formerly did.

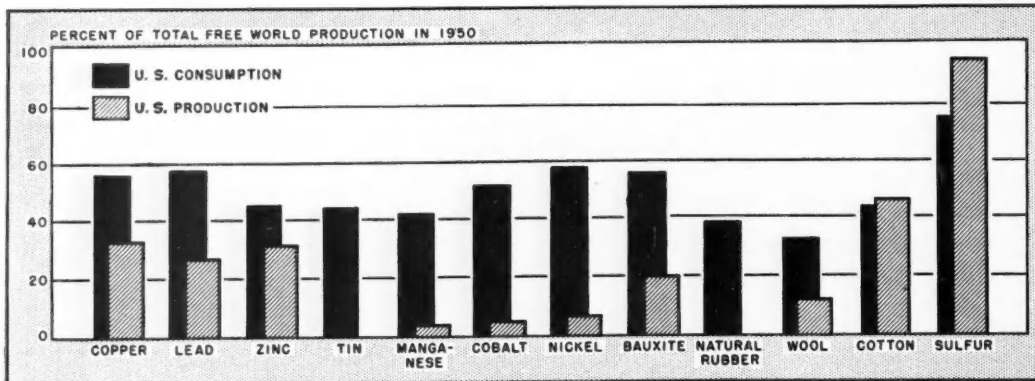
A federal program of price and wage controls, launched early this year, helped to curb inflation for the time being. This summer, however, Congress passed a law which relaxed government price regulations. Officials of the Truman administration declare that the new law will cause prices to start climbing rapidly again. Some observers, though, insist that Mr. Truman and his helpers still have enough power to control inflation. We shall need to wait a while to see who is correct.

Civilian defense. In the vital matter of preparing our civilian communities to cope with atomic bombing attacks and other war disasters, progress has been extremely slow. Great numbers of volunteer rescue workers, fire fighters, and air raid wardens are still to be recruited. On an average, it has been estimated, our cities and towns need nearly 20 times as many of these volunteers as they have already obtained. Comparatively little has been done about providing bomb shelters.

The U. S. government has established a Federal Civil Defense Administration, but its duties are limited. The main responsibility for civilian defense has been left to state and local governments.

If air raids occur, there are bound to be severe losses. Through adequate preparation, however, these losses could be kept at a minimum.

It is to be hoped that neither our civilian defenses nor our armed forces are ever put to the supreme test of world war. But if such a test comes, the nation must be ready to meet it.



THE UNITED STATES and other nations of the free world depend heavily on one another for vital raw materials. Information in this chart was obtained from a recent report by U. S. Mobilization Director Charles Wilson.

SPORTS

ONE of the biggest youth sports events of the summer was the national junior and boys' tennis tournament held in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Each year the Kalamazoo tournament marks the high point of the season for young tennis players. In the closing days of July, approximately 200 gather on the campus of Kalamazoo College—"the Forest Hills of junior tennis." They are the cream of the crop, chosen for the national championship event after victories in local tournaments in which thousands have taken part. From their ranks are almost certain to come the Davis Cup players of a few years hence.

It is hard to imagine how the setup at Kalamazoo could be improved. The courts are excellent. The Stowe tennis stadium is one of the finest in the nation. The matches are run off with clock-like efficiency. The names of the players are posted on stands beside the courts. Ball boys (and girls) are available for every match.

The players are housed and fed on the campus within a stone's throw of the courts. Parents who accompany their sons to the tournament may also get rooms on the campus. In case rain forces postponement of the matches, varied recreational facilities are available, including a swimming pool and a well-equipped gymnasium.

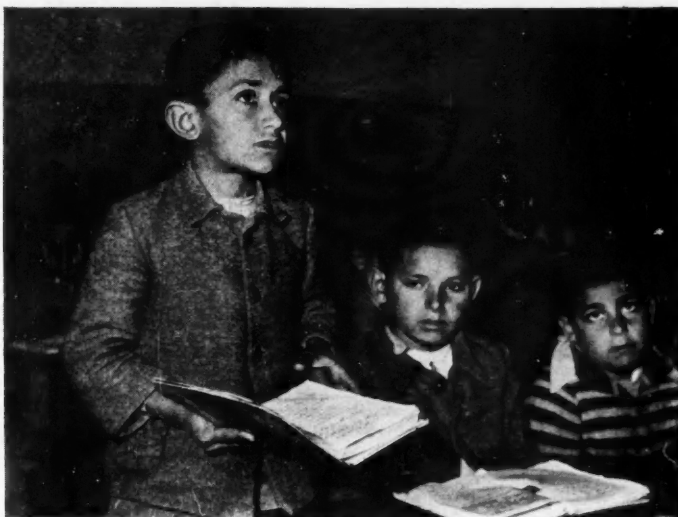
Mainly responsible for the smooth and efficient way in which these national events are planned and conducted is Dr. Allen B. Stowe of Kalamazoo College (the tennis stadium bears his name). A nationally recognized authority on tennis, Dr. Stowe has played a leading role for many years in the development of young players. His activities along this line are supported by President J. S. Everton of Kalamazoo College.

There is ample proof that the junior and boys' competition at Kalamazoo is the proving ground of tennis champions. For example, Herbie Flam, rated No. 2 player in the U. S. in 1950, is a former winner of both the boys' and junior championships. Dick Savitt, who has zoomed to the top this year, competed at Kalamazoo when he was a junior. Last year's junior champion, Hamilton Richardson, is already holding his own in the top tournaments for men.

It was unfortunate this year that the final match in junior competition went by default. Bob Perry of Los Angeles, California, top-seeded player in the tournament, dislocated his knee on the day before he was to take the court against the other finalist, Ted Rogers of Washington, D. C. The junior championship (for boys 16 through 18) went to Rogers, while the boys' title (up to 16) was won by Gerald Moss of Miami Beach, Florida.

Pronunciations

Abdullah—ab-dool-lah'
Amman—ahm'mahn
Emir Hussein—uh-meer' hōos-sān'
Hashemite—hāsh'em-it
Naif—nah-ef
Pakistan—pāk'is-tān
Tah-lal—tah-lahl'



A DESIRE FOR LEARNING is sweeping through nations where education has long been neglected. Shown here are Iranian kindergarten youngsters.

Fact and Opinion from . . .

Newspapers and Magazines

(The views expressed in this column are not necessarily endorsed by THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.)

"New Dream of 'Mass-Man,'" by Malvina Lindsay, *Washington Post*.

A vast new desire to read and write is stirring the world's masses. It is as though illiterate peoples had suddenly caught on to where the shortcut to better life could be found.

Even a few years ago there was hostility to schooling—suspicion and resentment of those who sought "learning"—in many undeveloped areas. For example, educators in Pakistan recall how difficult it formerly was to get children in rural areas to go to primary schools. Today all groups in Pakistan are clamoring for schooling. Schools have increased ten-fold.

In India the spread of literacy is like a religious crusade. In Latin America, about 70 million persons are reported eager to escape the bonds of illiteracy.

Why has such a change of heart come over so many people? For one thing, the new nationalism in some countries has stirred pride and hope. Also, greater contact with the rest of the world has shown the illiterate that the "smart mar" can better escape disease, that he lives longer, produces better crops, has more living comforts and, above all, can offer a better life to his children.

"The Human Minority," by Ivan T. Sanderson, *Saturday Evening Post*.

Few people have any idea of the sheer numbers of animal life on the globe. It has been estimated that in the tropics there are as many as 10 trillion insects in a single ant army. Sometimes the ants pass continuously for days on end in columns measuring eight inches to a foot in width.

The animals in the seas and oceans exceed by many times those living on land. During World War II, operators of highly sensitive sounding instruments found there were layers deep down in the ocean that reflected waves almost as though they were solid. The layers consisted of virtually solid masses of living things—probably shrimp-like creatures and squids.

The Department of Agriculture has calculated that insects destroy annually no less than one tenth of all the food we produce, and cause the American farmer alone at least a loss of

\$1,500,000,000 a year. Facts about the numbers of living creatures are thus of vital importance to our very existence as well as providing us with a constant source of wonderment.

"Turkey Paves the Path of Progress," by Maynard Owen Williams, *National Geographic Magazine*.

Once known as the "Sick Man of Europe," Turkey is today the most powerful nation between Italy and Pakistan, with an army of some 400,000 men. Everywhere are signs of progress. Modern machinery is replacing primitive tools on the farms. American bulldozers are carving out highways.

Turkey still faces many problems. It will take time to teach all the farmers how to use machines. There are still only 16,000 schools in the 40,000 towns and villages. Yet the transformation of Turkey from a primitive land to a modern nation is slowly and surely taking place.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

"Can you suggest a title for my new book?"

"What's it about?"

"America's most famous battles."

"Well, you could call it 'Scraps of American History.'"

★ ★ ★
"I can see good in all things."
"Can you see good in a fog?"

★ ★ ★
Strange that people call money "dough." Dough sticks to your fingers.

★ ★ ★
Consider the whale: The only time he gets into trouble is when he stops swimming and starts to blow.

★ ★ ★
The salesman had an interesting comment when told his competitor's price was lower than his.
"I have no quarrel with anyone who sells for less," he said. "After all, they ought to know how much their stuff is worth."

★ ★ ★
Judge to the convicted man: "I'm going to give you the maximum punishment. I'm going to turn you loose to worry about world conditions, taxes, and the high cost of living."

Your Vocabulary

In each sentence below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are given on page 8, column 4.

1. The government *allocated* (āl'ō-kāt-ēd) the materials. (a) seized (b) distributed or assigned (c) used (d) removed or withdrew.

2. A *prodigious* (prō-dij'ūs) effort was made. (a) slight (b) hasty or quick (c) huge (d) unfortunate.

3. Some *commodities* (kū-mōd'ī-tēz) are scarce. (a) goods (b) stamps (c) types of buildings (d) plants.

4. If a business is *subsidized* (sūb'si-dīzd), it is (a) closed down (b) taken over (c) made official (d) given financial aid.

5. Many people in Asia suffer from *malnutrition* (māl-nū-trish'ūn). (a) not enough money (b) a serious disease (c) lack of proper foods (d) floods.

6. *Agrarian* (ūh-grair'ī-ān) reforms are needed there. (a) political (b) agricultural (c) modern (d) numerous.

7. *Antiquated* (ān'ti-kwāt-ēd) farming methods are used. (a) out-of-date (b) excellent (c) complicated (d) very costly.

8. An *autonomous* (aw-tūn'ūh-mūs) country is (a) progressive or advanced (b) underdeveloped (c) independent or self-governing (d) wealthy.

9. The area was *jeopardized* (jēp'er-dīzd). (a) ruined (b) given military support (c) taken over (d) threatened with grave danger.

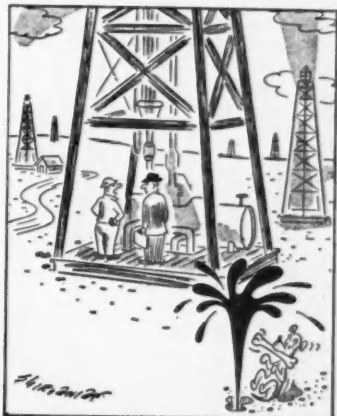
10. Their suffering was *alleviated* (āl-lē'vī-āt-ēd). (a) ignored or forgotten (b) studied or analyzed (c) made worse (d) lessened or relieved.

Belligerent. Originally from the Latin words *bellum*, meaning "war," and *gerere*, meaning "to wage." Thus, a *belligerent* nation is one which is waging war. The word also means "hostile" or "quarrelsome."

"Who can give a clear description of a politician?" asked the prof.

"I can," said the congressman's son.

"To which party do you refer?"



SHIRAZIAN IN SATURDAY EVENING POST
"We're down to 4,000 feet so far and all we've hit is sand"

Career for Tomorrow

As a Librarian

LIBRARIANS, perhaps as much as people in any field, need broad educational backgrounds. As part of a day's work they may have to decide on a new scientific book to order, help readers find material on the Mayan Indians, suggest a novel to interest an 80-year-old invalid, and help an 8-year-old find suitable fairy tales. While there is specialization in library work, still the best librarian is the one with the most extensive background.

If you are considering a career in this field, you can begin to build your background by taking a college preparatory course in high school. When you graduate, you may go straight to a college or university where library science is taught as a part of the curriculum that leads to an A. B. degree; or you may get an A. B. at any accredited college and take a master's degree in library science. There are about 40 approved library schools in the United States. A few give an A. B. degree in library science; the others require an A. B. for admission and give a course leading to a master's.

The American Library Association lists the following qualities, in addition to a broad cultural background, as being needed by a librarian: good physical and mental health, an ability to work harmoniously with others, initiative, resourcefulness, imagination, alertness to changing conditions, and executive ability (if you want to reach an administrative position).

To these might be added a passion

for collecting. Libraries are composed chiefly of books, but obscure pamphlets, rare letters, and other data of varied sorts add greatly to a library's value. Not every item can be kept, but the librarian should know instinctively which materials should be filed and which thrown away.

There are three types of libraries. The public libraries we all know. Academic libraries are those connected with schools, particularly with colleges and universities. Special libraries are those maintained by business and industrial firms, government agencies (federal, state, and local), labor organizations, chambers of commerce, research groups, and the like. Each special library collects only material that relates to the work of its organization.

Where only one or two people make up a library's staff, they order books and periodicals, catalog them, help readers find material, plan displays, and do whatever other work is required. On larger staffs the duties are divided. A chief librarian is in charge of the entire staff; catalogers keep the card index in order; reference librarians and readers' advisors help people find material; children's librarians assist the younger readers; and extension librarians operate bookmobiles that go into rural areas.

Some specialized preparation is required for these different jobs and for work in each of the three different types of libraries. This preparation



is obtained in the regular course in library science.

An opportunity to work with people and books, pleasant surroundings, and stimulating duties are among the advantages of being a librarian. The principal disadvantage lies in the salaries that are sometimes low.

Beginning positions in public libraries pay about \$2,400 a year in the smaller places and \$3,100 in the larger cities. Jobs for experienced librarians pay from about \$3,000 to \$5,000 a year. College librarians earn from \$2,400 to \$7,500 a year; and special librarians earn from \$3,000 to \$7,500 a year. Executive officers in the larger libraries earn more than these amounts.

Additional information on this field can be secured without charge from the American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois; and from the Special Libraries Association, 31 East 10th Street, New York 3, New York.

—By CARRINGTON SHIELDS.

Historical Backgrounds - - - A Busy Century

DO you ever wish that you lived a century ago, before the time of atom bombs and traffic jams? Perhaps so; but the chances are that if you were actually whisked into the America of 1851 you wouldn't enjoy it. You would miss countless comforts which modern Americans regard practically as necessities.

Take electric lights, for example. Last year, 94 per cent of all the homes in our nation had them. We give little thought to the magic of the electric bulb, except on those rare occasions when the current fails.

A century ago, however, people depended largely on whale oil lamps and tallow candles. In some cities, though not in all, illuminating gas had been introduced. During the 1850's the use of kerosene lamps became widespread. At first the kerosene was made from coal, and later it was obtained from petroleum.

Last year, about 70 per cent of all the homes in the United States—and over 80 per cent of the town and city homes—had bathrooms and running water. Every sizable town now regards its sewer system as an absolute necessity.

None of these present-day "necessities" was commonplace a century ago. Most American homes depended on wells and cisterns—with hand pumps or bucket-and-chain devices—for their water supply. Water mains were being introduced in places like New York and Boston during the 1840's and 1850's. Chicago, in 1856, became one of the first cities to have a sewer system worthy of the name.

Steam heat, hot-water heat, and hot-air furnaces had all been introduced in this country by 1851, but none were in widespread use. Most homes were heated by fireplaces or by round stoves that used coal or wood. Cooking was done on coal-burning or wood-burning ranges, which heated the kitchens to almost unbearable temperatures in summertime.

The family diet contained much less variety a century ago than it does today. Citrus fruits were uncommon in the northern cities, and commercial canning of foods was done only on a small scale. With transportation slow, and railway refrigerator cars not yet developed, it was nearly impossible to ship perishable food products over long distances.

In 1851, wealthy people imported



100 years ago most kitchens had stoves like this

much of their clothing from London and Paris, or had it made by skilled tailors and seamstresses. The average person, though, could seldom buy clothing that fitted properly. In a great many families, the dresses and shirts, and sometimes even the men's suits, were made at home.

Practically all the sewing, moreover, was done by hand. Elias Howe had invented a sewing machine in 1845, but large-scale manufacture did not begin until the 1850's.

The family laundry presented one of the hardest household tasks in early times. Not until late in the 1850's was a crude, hand-operated washing machine invented. Motor-driven machines and the modern home laundry were not even dreamed of. Tubs, water, and soap were the main equipment. Few commercial laundries were in operation.

Travel and communication were difficult in 1851. Not even the bicycle was then in existence. Mail traveled slowly, and house-to-house delivery had not yet begun. The telegraph system was in its infancy. Magazines were scarce. Telephones, radios, movies, and television were far in the future. People knew comparatively little about what was happening outside their own communities.

Today, millions of Americans from coast to coast hear the same radio programs, see the same movies, and read the same magazines. As a result, the people of different regions and of different economic groups are much more nearly alike now than they were a century ago.

Study Guide

U. S. Defense Program

1. What have been the three main purposes of the build-up in U. S. military strength that has taken place since the outbreak of war in Korea?
2. Give some figures to show how much our armed forces have grown during the last year.
3. On what grounds do many people, including Senator Lodge and Representative Vinson, criticize current plans for the U. S. Air Force?
4. How do defenders of the present Air Force program answer the criticism?
5. Tell something of the progress that our nation is making in the field of atomic weapons.
6. How does America's present rate of defense production compare with the rate that existed just before war began in Korea?
7. Give some comparisons between present price levels and those which prevailed just before the Korean conflict started.

Discussion

1. What do you think of the present U. S. defense program? Is it too large, about right, or not large enough? Explain your position.
2. Do you approve of the recent congressional move which relaxed federal price controls, or do you agree with President Truman that the step was unwise? Give reasons for your answer.

Asia

1. Name some Asiatic countries, besides Korea, in which Communists are engaging in warfare, uprisings, or acts of sabotage.
2. Briefly describe Asia as to population, area, and geographic contrasts.
3. Name some of the important natural resources which that continent possesses.
4. Why do large numbers of Asiatics look upon the west with suspicion?
5. List at least four of the points that the *Saturday Review of Literature* says Americans should remember about Asia.
6. Give some specific comparisons between Asia and America, from the standpoint of earnings, methods of working, health standards, and education.
7. In what ways is the United States trying to fight communism in Asia and to win the confidence of the Asiatics?

Discussion

1. In your opinion, what is the principal means by which we can win friendship and support in Asia?
2. Do you think the United States needs to regard Asia's friendship as particularly important? Why or why not?

Miscellaneous

1. What has been the main purpose of this month's world conference at San Francisco?
2. Name two international disputes, in addition to the Korean war, that the United Nations is trying to settle.
3. List some major bills that Congress has passed during this year's session.
4. Name three prospective candidates for the 1952 Presidential race.
5. What two nations is the United States now seeking to bring into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization?
6. What country was ruled by Abdullah, the king who was assassinated this summer?

References

- "The Balance of Military Power," *Atlantic Monthly*, June 1951. America's military position compared with Russia's.
- "New Atomic Weapons," *Newsweek*, August 20, 1951. Atomic progress, and its effect on our defense plans.
- "America and the Challenge of Asia," special issue of the *Saturday Review of Literature*, August 4, 1951.
- "The Middle East," special issue of *Current History*, July 1951.

Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (b) distributed or assigned; 2. (c) huge; 3. (a) goods; 4. (d) given financial aid; 5. (c) lack of proper foods; 6. (b) agricultural; 7. (a) out-of-date; 8. (c) independent or self-governing; 9. (d) threatened with grave danger; 10. (d) lessened or relieved.